GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2483
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2016
Issuance of Aadhaar Cards
Shetti Shri Raju alias Devappa Anna

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
(a) whether the generation/issuance of Aadhaar Cards including its legal validity has been questioned;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
(c) whether the Supreme Court has issued any direction to the Government that Aadhaar cards may not be made mandatory for getting benefits under various social welfare schemes and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
(d) the details of the number of Aadhaar Cards generated and delivered in the country and the funds incurred thereon, State/UT-wise; and
(e) whether non-delivery/late delivery/ postal loss of Aadhaar Cards has come to the notice of the Government and if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): A Writ Petition No. 494 of 2012 titled Justice (Retd.) K.S. Puttaswamy & Anr Vs Union of India & Ors was filed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court, challenging the legal validity of the Aadhaar Scheme. Thereafter, a batch of other writ petitions (W.P No. 829 of 2013 filed by S.G Vombatkere, W.P No. 833 of 2013 filed by Smt Aruna Roy, W.P No. 932 of 2013 filed by Nagrik Chetna Manch, W.P No. 37 of 2015 filed by Sh Mathew Thomas, W.P No. 220 of 2014 and W.P No. 797 of 2016 filed by Sh S.G Vombatkere etc) were filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court which were tagged together with W.P No. 494 of 2012 and stands transferred, to be heard before a Constitutional Bench. Additionally, a Writ Petition No. 231 of 2016 was also filed by Sh Jairam Ramesh, challenging the Aadhaar Bill (now an Act).

The Government had introduced the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Bill, 2016, in the Parliament on 03-03-2016, and was passed by the Parliament on 16-03-2016. The Bill received the assent of the President on 25-03-2016 and has been published in the Official Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 1 dated 26-03-2016, as Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 (Act No. 18 of 2016).

(c): The Hon'ble Supreme Court, vide its Interim Order dated 11-08-2015, had directed that the production of Aadhaar Card will not be a condition for obtaining any benefits otherwise due to a citizen and had directed that Aadhaar card will not be used for any purpose other than PDS scheme, Kerosene and LPG, which was later extended to include schemes of MGNREGS, NSAP Pensions (Old Age Pensions, Widow Pensions, Disability Pensions), PMJDY and EPFO, vide its interim order dated 15-10-2015. Further, the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide the order dated 15-10-2015 had also directed the Union of India to strictly follow all the earlier orders passed commencing from 23-09-2013 and had also directed that the Aadhaar card scheme is purely voluntary and it cannot be made mandatory till the matter is finally decided by the Court, one way or the other.

The above orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court are being strictly adhered to. Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act provide that if an Aadhaar number is not assigned to an individual, the individual shall be offered alternate and viable means of identification for delivery of the subsidy, benefit or service.

(d). As on 15th November, 2016, 107.83 crore Aadhaars Numbers have been generated in the country. Further, since inception and until 23-11-2016, a total of 106.34 crore Aadhaar letters have been printed and dispatched to the residents through Department of Posts (DoP). An expenditure of nearly ` 1052 crore has been incurred on account of printing and delivery of the Aadhaar letters. The State / UT wise details with regard to generation and delivery details of Aadhaar, vis-a-vis the population, as per the 2011 census is given in the Annexure.

(e). UIDAI communicates the Aadhaar Numbers (UID) to residents in physical and electronic forms. The mode of delivery of the physical Aadhaar letter is through First Class digitally Franked Mail Service for which the Department of Posts do not provide any dispatch number or tracking facility.

UIDAI receives grievances related to non-receipt of Aadhaar letters in Aadhaar Contact Centre/Grievance Portal/e-mails and UIDAI has set up an internal mechanism to resolve resident grievances on non-receipt of Aadhaar letters, by way of reprinting and resending these letters. Further, the electronic form of the Aadhaar letter, commonly called as the e-aadhaar, is a PDF document, and is digitally signed by UIDAI. The e-aadhaar can be downloaded by the resident from the website of UIDAI, as soon as the Aadhaar number is

successfully generated. This service was launched by UIDAI in 2012 with the objective to fill the gap between the rate of Aadhaar enrolments and distribution of printed Aadhaar letters to the resident by post. This facility has been very well received by residents over time and has facilitated UIDAI with fast and quick communication of Aadhaar Numbers.

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ANNEXURE

State / UT Total Population as per 2011 census Aadhaar generated as on 15th Nov 2016 Aadhaar Letters dispatched as on 23-11-2016

A & N Islands	379944	385849	387456
Andhra Pradesh	49378776	50432763	87704986
Telangana	35220187	37791654	
Arunachal Pradesh	1382611	911904	901166
Assam	31169272	1816459	1636589
Bihar	103804637	79470580	77467744
Chandigarh	1054686	1098281	1122832
Chhattisgarh	25540196	26071178	25858854
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	342853	341573	342834
Daman & Diu	242911	209673	211159
Delhi	16753235	20202682	20301930
Goa	1457723	1475193	1469445
Gujarat	60383628	54759599	54468102
Haryana	25353081	27010039	26990978
Himachal Pradesh	6856509	7211996	7221680
Jammu and Kashmir	12548926	8716280	7738436
Jharkhand	32966238	33217756	33096485
Karnataka	61130704	58373198	57987442
Kerala	33387677	34508738	34260644
Lakshadweep	64429	66590	63425
Madhya Pradesh	72597565	68928024	68666332
Maharashtra	112372972	109388576	104223087
Manipur	2721756	1889539	1761431
Meghalaya	2964007	239314	194229
Mizoram	1091014	547435	476774
Nagaland	1980602	1114545	1071056
Odisha	41947358	36087515	35145440
Puducherry	1244464	1272790	1268476
Punjab	27704236	29332331	29409898
Rajasthan	68621012	61266437	61188685
Sikkim	607688	587655	588600
Tamil Nadu	72138958	66029212	65540028
Tripura	3671032	3615936	3636708
Uttar Pradesh	199581477	166234447	165055241
Uttarakhand	10116752	9567272	9484086
West Bengal	91347736	78217070	76512933
Grand Total	1210126852	1078390083	1063455190